ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

SOUTHEASTERN

Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

MACEDONIA CHURCH,

Green County. Miss., October 8th, 9th and 10th, 1892.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

—‡—

R. POWELL, MODERATOR,

CITRONELLE, MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA.

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N. S. PIERCE, CLERK AND TREASURER.

Mobile, Mobile County. Ala.

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MOBILE ITEM PRINT.

MINUTES.

The Messengers comprising the Southeastern Baptist Association met at Macedonia Church, Greene County, Miss., on the 8th day of October, 1892, for the purpose of holding the Seventeenth Annual Session. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder D. B. Booth, commencing at 11 o'clock. He selected for his text the 6th verse of the 15th Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, which reads as follows:

"And the apostles and elders came
together for to consider of this matter."

After which a recess was taken of an hour for refreshments.

The Delegates assembled at 2 o'clock and were called to order by the former Moderator, R. Powell, and prayer was offered by Elder S. O. Y. Ray.

The Association was then declared open for any business that might be brought before it.

On motion the Association adopted the former order of business.

The Moderator then appointed the following Committees:

On Preaching.—C. E. Davis, T. W. Brannan and P. M. Mason.

On Finance.—W. Howell and H. A. Lott.

Brothers R. F. Holland and Berry Byrd read the letters from the different churches, all of which were received and the delegates names enrolled as follows:

Pleasant Hill—R. Powell and W. Sweeny.
Rocky Creek—C. E. Davis, J. Havard and J. Mallet.
Palestine—N. S. Pierce, F. Pierce and C. Griffin.
Bethel—B. Byrd and H. A. Lott.
Providence—Not represented.
Salem—J. M. Holland, T. Allen and A. Miller.
Macedonia—T. W. Brannan and P. M. Mason.
Mission—J. A. McKinzie and W. Young.
Shady Grove—W. Howell and William Goff.
Prospect—Not represented.
New Hope—W. Finch and J. M. Finch.

The Committee on Preaching made their report which was adopted.—(See Appendix A.)

The Association then proceeded to elect officers. J. Whitehead and George Terrell were requested to take the vote, which resulted as follows: R. Powell, Moderator; N. S. Pierce, Clerk and Treasurer.

The Moderator called for Petitionery Letters. None offered

Call for Correspondence and the following received: Elder S. O. Y. Ray, from the Chickasaw Association; Bro. J. M. Kailin, of the Alabama Baptist. Elder J. R. Newell and J. W. Dossett, from the Mobile Association as Messengers. The Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to these brethren and welcomed them to seats.

The Moderator appointed the following Committees:

Letters and Documents—W. Sweeny and J. Mallet.
Querries and Requests—Charles Griffin and J. M. Holland.
State of Religion—J. A. McKinzie and J. Havard.

Sabbath Schools—Berry Byrd and F. Pierce.
Infirm Ministers.—W. Goff and P. M. Mason.
Temperance—W. Finch, W. Young and Albert Miller.
Missions—T. Allen, W. Howell and J. M. Finch.
On motion a Committee on Education and Religious Literature was appointed: Education, J. M. Kailin; Religious Literature, S. O. Y. Ray, and D. B. Booth.
The Association adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

Elder Ray preached at 11 o'clock to a large and attentive congregation, after which a collection was taken for missionary purposes which amounted to $24 50. At 2 o'clock Brother Kailin officiated in the place of Brother Byrd at the church and preached a very interesting sermon.

On Monday morning, at 9 o'clock, the Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer was offered by R. Powell.
The roll was called and absentees noted.
The call for Correspondence was made and none reported.
It was moved and adopted that the time for speaking be limited to ten minutes to each member of the Association.

CALL FOR REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The Committee on Letters and Documents reported which was received and adopted after some corrections made by the Committee.
See Appendix B.
The Committee on Sabbath Schools' report was received and adopted after a discussion by Elders J. M. Kailin, B. Byrd and J. E. Brunson.
See Appendix C.
The Committee on State of Religion made their report which was received and adopted after a discussion by B. Byrd and others.
[See Appendix D.
Committee on Missions received and adopted after some amendment.
See Appendix E.
Committee on Temperance received and adopted after discussion by Brother Ray and others. See Appendix F.
Committee on Queries and Requests received and adopted.
See Appendix G.
Committee on Infirm Ministers received and adopted and a collection made for Elder H. Brannan amounting to $5 75. See Appendix H.
The report on Education received and adopted. See Appendix I.
The report on Religious Literature received and adopted after some discussion by J. M. Kailin and others. See Appendix J.
The Treasurer's Report was received and adopted. See Appendix K.
The report of the Finance Committee was received. See Appendix L.

RESOLUTIONS.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator.
Resolved, That the Association pay Bro. Powell's expenses on the L. & N. Railroad to the Association for last year, $4 45, and the Clerk be authorized to pay the amount to Brother Powell.
Resolved that the Clerk be paid $10 00 for his services this year.
Resolved that this Association meet on Friday before the Second Sunday in October, 1893, instead of Saturday, as heretofore.

Resolved, That any member of this body, in good standing in his church, who may visit any sister association, is authorized to act as a corresponding messenger from this Association.

Resolved, That Elder Berry Byrd preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session of this Association, and that J. P. Griffin be his alternate.

Resolved, That the Clerk superintend the printing of the minutes.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered the brethren and sisters of Macedonia Church, and the community at large, for kindness shown our friends and delegates during our stay among them.

Resolved, That the Articles of Faith, Constitution and Rules of Decorum be spread on the Minutes.

Resolved, That the Association adjourn to meet with Pleasant Hill Church, Mobile County, Ala., on Friday before the Second Sunday in October, 1893.

A parting hymn was sung while the brethren and sisters shook the parting hand, prayer was offered Elder J. E. Brunson, and the Association was dismissed, seemingly in perfect love and harmony, feeling that they had spent time in the service of the Lord.

RICHMOND POWELL, MODERATOR.

N. S. PIERCE, Clerk and Treasurer.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

[APPENDIX A.]

Your Committee on Preaching beg leave to submit the following report: Bro. J. M. Kailin to preach at the church to-night Bro. S. O. Y. Ray at Rocky Creek School house to-night; Bro. Ray at the stand on Sunday at 11 o'clock, and Bro. Berry Byrd at 2 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted, P. MASON, Chairman.

[APPENDIX B.]

Your Committee on Letters and Documents submit the following:— We have no documents to report. There are nine chnrches represented at this session, leaving two unrepresented. Those represented have pastors. Respectfully submitted, WILLIAM SWEENY, Chmn.

[APPENDIX C.]

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following report:— By consulting the letters from the various churches we find but one Sabbath School reported. There seems to be children in every community that need training, but the great trouble is there is no one to train them in the nature and admonition of the Lord. Brethren, the responsibilities that rest upon us as parents and teachers in regard to the way we raise our children is great. Christ says: "Learn of me now, how can the children come except they be taught." Brethren let your light not only shine, but so shine, says the word, "that others seeing your good work may be constrained to glorify your Father which is in Heaven." Now, Brethren, go to work for Jesus among the children and organize a Sabbath School in each church. Bring in a Sabbath School report next session, is the prayer of your Committee.

BERRY BYRD, Chairman.

[APPENDIX D.]

Your Committee on the State of Religion submit the following report: We find, by consulting the letters, that all of our churches are in a lukewarm condition. Brethren, arouse from the dead state we are in, and may the God of Heaven help us to be ever a more faithful people.

J. A. McKINZIE, Chairman.

[APPENDIX E.]

Your Committee on Missions submit the following: We recommend that half the money collected for missions be sent for foreign missions, and the other half be retained within the bounds of this Association.

Respectfully submitted, T. A. ALLEN, Chairman.

[APPENDIX F.]

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to report the following:—We believe that intemperance is one of the greatest evils that can be practised by professors of religion, and, therefore, recommend to the brethren to abstain from it and to use their influence to keep all others from this dangerous habit. W. H. FINCH, Chairman.

[APPENDIX G.]

Your Committee on Queries and Requests beg leave to state that we find no queries from the churches this year, and no petitions for the Association, except three verbal requests by the Delegates. We recommend that the next session of the Association be held with Pleasant Hill Church, Mobile County, Ala. J. M. HOLLAND, Chairman.

[APPENDIX H.]

Your Committee on Infirm Ministers report as follows: We find but one Infirm Minister, Elder H. Brannan, and he is not in actual need at present, but might be soon. We recommend that this Association keep an eye single to the good brother and make provision for him in case it is called upon. P. M. MASON, Chairman.

[APPENDIX I.]

This is an age of education. A century past Baptists were considered an ignorant sect. Circumstances and the guiding hand of God have brought us forward until to-day we have in our denomination men of intelligence and scholarship. Our Southern Baptists are making rapid advances along this line. We should urge the establishment of good schools in every locality. We have our denominational colleges in Alabama and Mississippi for the higher education of both sexes. In Alabama we have the Howard College at East Lake, for the boys, and the Judson Institute, at Marion, for the girls. These are both excellent schools of our denomination. In Mississippi we have the Mississippi College, at Clinton, for boys, which will be moved to Meridian this year. For girls we mention the Shuqulak Female College, Blue Mountain Female College, and many others in this State. Ministerial education is a subject of great importance. The future of our denomination depends, in a large measure, on our having an educated and consecrated ministry. To this end we should seek out men who give promise of usefulness as ministers of the gospel, and assist them in securing an education. In Alabama and Mississippi we have Boards to whom many can be sent for this purpose These Boards will do all they can to help young men who are too poor to pay their own expenses. Our Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., is a school for our preachers of which we can well be proud. J. M. KAILIN, Chairman.

[APPENDIX J.]

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE – The educational power of the Press is no longer denied. This mighty influence is according to the character of the reading matter on the printed page. As a denomination we must read or fall behind in the march of education. We must read and supply our children with books and papers that will tend to our religious and spiritual advancement. We insist, first of all, a diligent reading of the Bible, as the word of God. For our Sunday Schools we recommend the series of Lesson Helps issued by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tenn. To inform us on the great subject of Foreign Missions, we should read the Foreign Mission Journal, published at Richmond, Va., for 50 cents; The Home Field, issued by the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga., for 25 cents a year, which informs us of the work of that Board. We urge our people to read our State Denominational paper, the Baptist Record, published at Meridian, Miss, for $2 00 a year, which all Baptists of Mississippi should read. The Alabama Baptists, published at Montgomery, Ala., for $2 00 per year, should be read by all Baptist in Alabama.

Respectfully submitted, S. O. Y. RAY, D. B. BOOTH, } Committee.

[APPENDIX K]

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1892.

Received from the Finance Committee,		$63 65
Paid for Printing Minutes	$15 00	
Paid J. E. Brunsen,	16 55	
Paid Clerk	20 00	
Stationery and Postage,	60	
		$52 15
Balance in Treasury		$11 50

Respectfully submitted,
N. S. PIERCE, Clerk and Treasurer.

[APPENDIX L]

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following report:

Received from the Churches for Associational purposes,	$22 85
For Missionary Purposes,	1 55
Sabbath Collections	24 50
From Treasurer	11 50
Total	$60 40

Respectfully submitted, H. A. LOTT, Chairman.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

BELONGING TO THE

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

BERRY BYRD, ... Citronelle, Mobile County, Ala.
J. E. BRUNSEN, ... Mobile, Mobile County, Ala.
THOMAS HAVARD, ... Vernal, Greene County, Miss.
HENRY BRANNAN, ... Vernal, Greene County, Miss.
J. P. GRIFFIN, ... Mobile, Mobile County, Ala.
JAMES LANKFORD, ... Citronelle, Mobile County, Ala.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our Union, who, upon producing their credentials, shall be entitled to their seats, and members thus chosen and convened shall be known as the SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Art. 2. This Association shall annually, upon convening, proceed to choose from the members present, a Moderator and Clerk, to preside over the deliberations of the body and keep order, and to make correct entries and minutes of their proceedings; and in their deliberations they shall be governed by the Rules of Decorum annexed to this Constitution, which Rules may be altered or amended, as the Association may think proper.

Art. 3. This Association shall have no power to interfere with or infringe upon the internal rights or privileges of the Churches, but shall only be an "Advisory Council" and Convention of the Churches to answer such querries as are lawfully sent up by the Churches, and give such advice as may strengthen the Union and promote the happiness of the Churches.

Art. 4. Matters of dealing shall not be introduced by individual members, but sent up by the Church, clearly set forth in writing with a statement that they have striven to reconcile the matter, but have failed. Then the Association may take it under consideration, and a decision by a majority shall be an advisory answer.

Art. 5. All matters that relate to the secular business and progress of this Association as a body, with the preaching of the Word to the attending congregations at their annual sessions, must be introduced by motion.

Art. 6. This Association shall pass no resolution touching the liberty of the Churches, or the individual members, on pecuniary matters; but each shall have the privilege to act in the matter for themselves.

Art. 7. New Churches may be admitted into the union by messengers bearing letters of application, if, upon examination, they be found orderly and orthodox; and upon their reception the Moderator shall give the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 8. Each Church shall be entitled to Two Delegates, until her number shall amount to twenty-five members; and one additional Delegate for every twenty-five over.

Art. 9. The Churches shall transmit to each annual session of the Association, written communications, specifying the names of their messengers, the number received by Baptism, received by Letter, Dismissed, Excluded, Restored and Deceased, since the last meeting of the Association, together with the whole number then in fellowship.

Art. 10. This Association shall open and continue a correspondence with such of her sister Associations as she may think proper.

Art. 11. This Association shall have power to exclude from her body, or union, after due labor, any Church that may violate the Constitution, or depart from the orthodox principles of the Gospel.

Art. 12. The Association shall have a fund, to be supplied by the voluntary contributions of the Churches, or otherwise, as may be gratuitously contributed; and all moneys contributed by the Churches, shall be transmitted by their messengers and paid over to the Clerk, who shall take in charge such fund and dispose of same agreeable to order, and at every annual session make a fair and circumstantial report thereon.

Art. 13. A suitable and well bound book for the Association shall be provided, in which the Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, and the Minutes of this and each succeeding session of this Association shall be legibly transcribed and recorded, properly paged and indexed, by or under the inspection of the Clerk, who shall be allowed and receive a compensation for his services; and it is also to be the duty of the Clerk of this Association, and each of the Churches, to procure, if practicable, and preserve a regular file of the Printed Minutes of this Association.

Art. 14. Any alteration of the Constitution may be made at any time while the Association is in session, by a vote of the majority of the members present.

Art. 15. All Ministers belonging to this Association shall have the same voice of the Delegates.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Article 1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.—[1st John, 5th chapter, 7th verse; John, 17th chapter, 3d verse.

Art. 2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testaments, are the word of God, and the rules of faith and practice.—[2nd Timothy, 3d chapter, 16th and 17th verses; Hebrews, 8th chapter, 6th verse.

Art. 3. We believe in the doctrine of Election, and that God chose His people in Christ before the foundation of the world —[2d Timothy, 1st chapter, 9th verse; 2d Thessalonians, 2d chapter, 13th verse; Ephesians, 1st chapter, 4th verse.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.—[Romans, 2d chapter 11th to 18th verse; Romans, 5th chapter, 12th verse.

Art. 5. We believe in man's incapacity by his own free will and ability to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature. —[John, 6th chapter, 44th and 56th verses; Ephesians, 2d chapter, 1st, 8th and 9th verses.

Art. 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.—[Romans, 4th chapter, 11th and 22d verses; John 14th chapter, 9th verse.

Art. 7. We believe that God's Elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.—[2d Timothy, 1st chapter, 9th verse; Romans, 8th chapter, 30th verse; 2d Thessalonians, 2d chapter, 13th and 14th verses.

Art. 8. We believe that Saints shall be preserved in Grace, and never fall away.—[John, 10th chapter, 28th and 29th verses; Romans, 8th chapter, 38th and 39th verses; Psalms, 37th chapter, 31st, 32d and 33d verses.

Art. 9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that by immersion is the only mode.—[Mathew, 28th chapter, 19th and 20th verses; 1st Corinthians, 15th chapter, 23d, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th verses.

Art. 10. We believe in the Resurrection of the Dead, and in the general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.—[1st Corinthians, 15th chapter; John, 5th chapter, 28th and 29th verses.

Art. 11. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel but one who is regularly baptised, called to God, and comes under the hands of a Presbytery.—[Acts, 13th chapter, 2d and 3d verses; 1st Timothy, 4th chapter, 14th verse.

Art. 12. We believe that none but regularly baptised members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.—[Mathew 28th Chapter, 19th 29th verses; 1st Corinthians, 11th chapter, 28th verse.

Rules of Decorum.

1st. The Association shall be opened by prayer or praise.

2d. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

3d. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretional right to call to order at any time.

4th. Any member dissatisfied with his decision may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.

5th. But one shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and on obtaining permission, may proceed.

6th. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

7th. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject under debate, or use words of personal reflection.

8th. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

9th. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided on or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

10th. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for the debates, the Moderator shall put the question fairly to the Association for a decision.

11th. Any person wishing to retire shall first obtain permission from the Moderator.

12th. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, without permission from the Association, no more than once until every member wishing to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject until the debate has been carried through.

13th. The appellation of Brother shall be used in the Association by its members in their address one to another.

14th. The roll of the names of delegates shall be called on Monday morning, and no names shall appear on the minutes who do not answer to their names, unless leave of absence be granted, or satisfactory excuse rendered.

15th. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which shall tend to interupt public speaking.

16th. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided be appoint another member to his seat during the time; but he shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.

17th. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator at discretion, but only on the breech made.

18th. These Rules may be altered or amended when a majority of the members present may think proper to do so.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	POST OFFICES.	NAMES —OF— DELEGATES.	Baptised	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Dismissed	Died	Excluded	No. Member's	Associational Fund	Number of Minutes.	Time Meeting	PASTORAL SUPPLIES.	CHURCH CLERKS.
Pleasant Hill,	Mobile, Ala	Citronelle	R. Powell, W. Sweney		1			1		30	$ 1 50	12	1	J. M Hall	R. Powell
Rockey Creek,	Greene, Miss	Vernal	J. Harvard, C. E. Davis												
Palestine,	Mobile, Ala	Mobile	J. M. Mallet			1	1	1		69	3 50	25	4	D. B. Booth	J. Harvard
Bethel,	Mobile, Ala	Citronelle	N. S. Pierce, F. Pierce, O Griffin	1				1	1	69	3 60	30	4	J. E Brunson	N. S. Pierce,
Providence,	Mobile, Ala	Chickasabogue	H. A. Lott, B. Byrd				2		1	19	1 50	15	2	Elder Whitt	A. J. Rowell
Salem,	Jackson, Miss	Moss Point	Not Represented							38					
Macedonia,	Greene, Miss	Vernal	J. M. Holland, T. Allen, Albert Miller,	1	1					50	4 00	20	1	J. P. Griffin,	A. G. Dudley
Mission,	Mobile, Ala	Spring Hill	M W Brannan, P M Mason							30	1 75	15	2	D. B. Booth,	H. Williford
Shady Grove,	Jackson, Miss	Cross Roads	J. A. McKinzy, W. Young,		1	8	1	3		27	2 00	15	3	J. P. Griffin	
Prospect	Jackson, Miss	Orange Grove	W. Howell, W. Goff	5	2	1				46	3 00	20	1	J. E. Brunson	J. B. Davis
New Hope,	Jackson, Miss	Howell	Not Represented							16					
			W F Finch, J M Finch.		5					13	1 00	8		J. E. Brunson	
				7	10	2	11	4	5	353	$21 85	160			

1 1 30 1.50
2 1 69 3.60
1 8 1 3 19 1.50
1 2 10 4 27 2 8.60